

Claims

We claim:

1. (Currently amended) A purified protein having ELF3 protein biological activity, the amino acid sequence of which comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
  - (a) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or ~~SEQ ID NO: 13; and~~
  - (b) ~~amino acid sequences that differ from SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 13 by one or more conservative amino acid substitutions; and~~
  - (c) amino acid sequences having at least ~~91~~95% sequence identity to the sequences specified in (a) or (b).
2. (Original) The purified protein of claim 1, comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.
- 3-11. (Canceled)
12. (Currently amended) The purified protein of claim 1 bound by an anti-ELF3 protein antibody~~ELF3 protein-specific binding agent~~.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Original) An isolated ELF3 protein, the amino acid sequence of which consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.
15. (Canceled)
16. (New) The anti-ELF3 protein antibody of claim 12.
17. (New) A purified anti-ELF3 protein antibody that binds specifically to the protein of claim 1.

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